

Erlene Nolley

282552

Feb 24, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you. Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

Dear SC Public Service Commission:

It is outrageous that Duke is proposing a 300+% hike in their mandatory fee which most adversely impacts the poor, the elderly and people on a fixed income. The only justification for this massive hike would be a public commitment by Duke to spend the extra funds on improving the system infrastructure such as burying lines in residential areas to reduce outages, putting in more efficient substations, etc. Even then, this mandatory fee hike will most hit people who can least afford it. Please consider your decision carefully. Consumers are counting on you to be watch dogs and balancing needs of customers against the real and made up needs of a monopoly.

Sincerely,  
Erlene Nolley

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